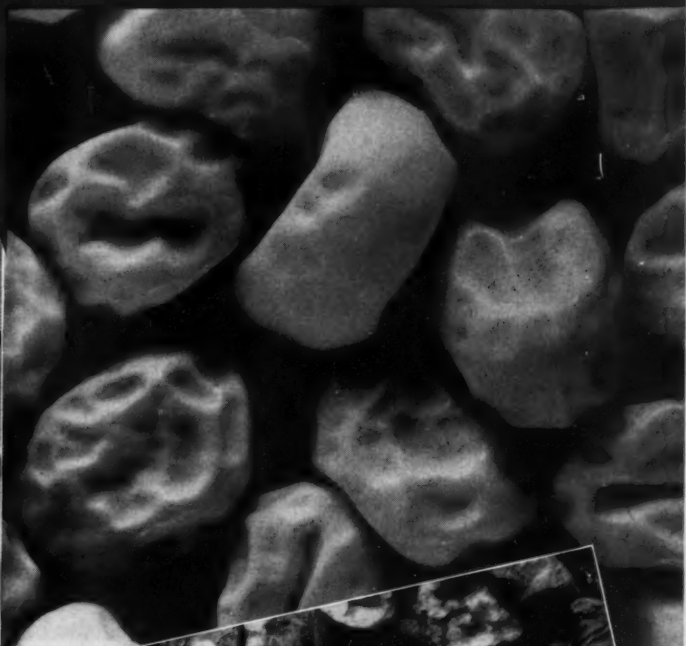
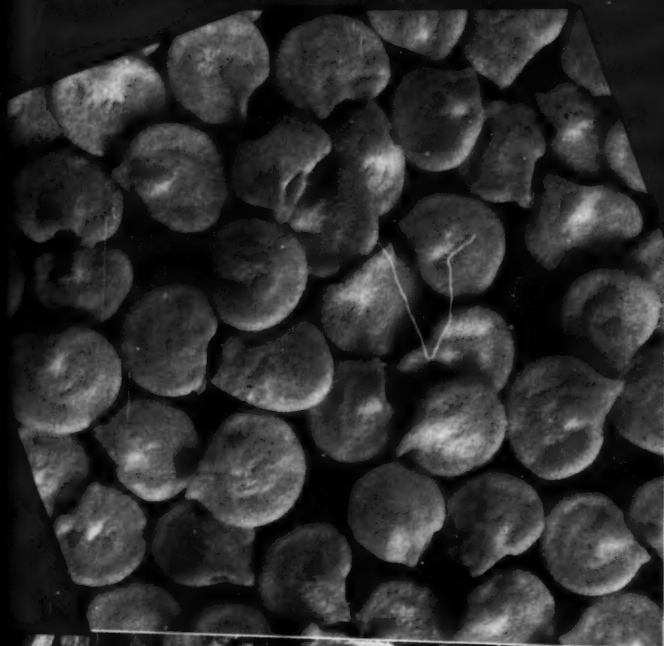


American Vegetable Grower

JANUARY • 1954



THE BEST SEED IS NO LUXURY—Page 6

It's **QUICK** Switch... with **EAGLE HITCH** for the "100" Jobs of Growing Crops



New Low-Seat Eagle Hitch Tractor in the Case 2-plow "VA" Series gives you full crop clearance for cultivating up front or behind . . . Constant Hydraulic Control for raising, lowering, or adjusting implements . . . plus the comfort and convenience of close-to-the ground operation. Low, roomy platform is reached in one step from the side. Low Bodyguard® seat has torsional rubber suspension, sponge rubber cushion with waterproof cover.

Preparing seedbeds is a snap with this low-cost, low-seat tractor and Eagle Hitch Breakaway Pivot-Action plow, tandem disk harrow, and spike-tooth harrow as shown. Also mounts many other implements including disk plow, roller-packer, spring-tooth harrows, tool-bar for planters and tillage tools, utility carrier.



Just think—in one minute you hook up to rear-mounted disk and moldboard plows, tandem and offset disk harrows, utility carrier, tool-bar and other implements—and you do it without getting off the tractor seat. It's just as quick and easy to drop one implement and switch to another. Eagle Hitch saves a lot of fuss and bother . . . reduces precious get-ready time . . . gives you more productive time in the field. Eagle Hitch gives you freedom to do any job when it needs to be done—and to switch to another in a jiffy. See your Case dealer—get a demonstration—find out how Eagle Hitch works.



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Find out how all the exclusive advantages of Eagle Hitch Farming help you increase production and give you larger returns.

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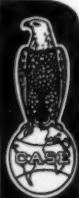
Get pictorial catalogs. Mark here or write in margin any that interest you. J. I. Case Co., Dept. A-214, Racine, Wis.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Breakaway Mounted Plows | <input type="checkbox"/> "Eagle Hitch Farming" Book |

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

High Cost of Transportation

Dear Editor:

During past years there have been various plans to help agriculture, such as price supports, government buying of surplus, limitations of acreage planted, etc.

However, there is one item which causes "diminishing returns" to the farmer and that is the cost of transportation by railroad to the large terminal markets, or as a matter of fact, to any market in the country. Naturally the cost of transportation is paid for by the farmer.

Freight rates are now at such a high level as to disrupt the balance between a fair return to both the producer and the rail carrier. While the latter gets fatter the farmer gets more lean and hungry.

In order to give you a few concrete examples of what we mean, let's take iceberg lettuce coming out of Salinas, Calif. This commodity is packaged in two-dozen size cartons, and we would say the average f.o.b. price for the season has been \$1.50. This to cover the cost of production and packing with little if any return to the grower. The cost of freight with refrigeration on this commodity to Philadelphia is \$1.10 per carton, or equivalent to 75 per cent of the production and packing cost.

California celery has been selling for some time at \$1.25 to \$1.75 per crate f.o.b.; and the freight, with refrigeration, to Philadelphia ranges from \$1.70 to \$1.93 per crate. California honeydews for the past two months have been selling at \$1.35 to \$1.90 f.o.b. with the freight at \$1.25 to \$1.32 per crate. Many cars of California cantaloupes were sold f.o.b. recently at \$2.50 to \$2.75 with freight charges of \$2.40 to \$2.78 per crate. These are only samples of the many commodities shipped which follow the same pattern.

We would suggest that the USDA spearhead a move to have the Interstate Commerce Commission order the railroads to make at least a 25 per cent cut in their rates. When the railroads run into difficulties they ask the I.C.C. for temporary increases in rates, so why not do the same thing in reverse now that the farmer is running into difficulties?

Since the present trend of "diminishing farm returns" applies to most phases of agriculture such a move would have country-wide appeal to the farm bloc, and we predict that every national and local organization interested in the production or distribution of agricultural products would support and join such a move. It is our opinion that it is nearly time the farmers rather than the railroads are given consideration.

Philadelphia Terminals Marketing Assn.
Philadelphia 6, Pa. Walter J. Quinn

Shelf Life of Carrots

Dear Editor:

I believe it was in the September issue of AMERICAN VEGETABLE GROWER that there was an article referring to the shelf life of carrots at various temperatures. The article stated that the man that had done the research on the shelf life of various vegetables would be happy to send this information on request.

Through an inadvertent oversight on our part we mislaid our September issue, but we are still interested in getting in touch with this person. We would appreciate it if you

could give us information regarding his name and address so that we might write him directly concerning this matter.
Faribault, Minn. K. E. Relyea

The man you want for shelf life of various vegetables is R. E. Hardenburg, Handling, Storage, and Transportation of Fruits and Vegetables, Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md.—Ed.

Our Experience in Growing Strawberries

Dear Editor:

The article "High Yields Make Berry Profits" in the November issue was very interesting to me, and I thought your readers would be interested in our experience in planting and growing strawberries.

Most growers set out strawberry plants in the spring. However, we have found that we have better success by setting out our plants in the fall.

The center root and bud are the most valuable parts of the plant and should receive the best attention. We use the harrow more than any other tool in cultivating our strawberries. We practice the hill system and allow the plants to make only four new plants. The plants are mulched with sweet potato tops after the ground is frozen. We plant Temple, Sparkle, and Blakemore varieties.

Hammonton, N. J. Elgin C. Wade

Addresses of Mechanical Harvesters

Dear Editor:

I would appreciate information on the carrot and beet combine manufactured by the Scott Viner Company. I am interested in the functioning, efficiency, and capabilities of the combine. I would also like the price together with costs of operation.

Can you give me the address of the Scott Viner Company?
Salinas, Calif. C. T. Reich

Address of Scott Viner Company is 1224 Kinnear Rd., Columbus 8, Ohio.—Ed.

Dear Editor:

We were very much interested in the article "Progress in Potato Harvesting" in the September issue of American Vegetable Grower. We would like to look further into mechanical harvesting of potatoes and would very much appreciate your sending us the addresses of the following equipment companies: T. J. Lockwood Graders, Inc.; Dahlman Manufacturing Co.; Ed's Equipment Co.; and Champion Corporation.
Malone, N. Y. Stuart A. Child

Addresses are as follows: T. J. Lockwood Graders, Inc., Gering, Neb.; Dahlman Manufacturing Co., Braham, Minn.; Ed's Equipment Co., Shafter, Calif.; and Champion Corporation, 4714 Sheffield Ave., Hammond, Ind.—Ed.

Series on Vegetable Areas

Dear Editor:

I certainly enjoyed the article by Fred W. Jackson on New Jersey which appeared in your November issue. Very fascinating reading and a good start for this series.
Baltimore, Md. C. V. Duncan

American

VEGETABLE GROWER

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

(Commercial Vegetable Grower)

Vol. 2 JANUARY, 1954 No. 1

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

The four enlarged photographs of pepper, pea, carrot, and beet seed used to make the front cover, were taken by Victor R. Boswell, author of the article, "The Best Seed Is No Luxury," appearing in this issue.

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State News
New For You
Editorial Page

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E. G. K. MEISTER
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Editorial Staff

R. T. MEISTER ELDON S. BANTA
E. K. GOULD M. A. FRAZIER
R. L. CAROLUS M. P. RASMUSSEN

H. B. TUKEY

Advertising Manager
EDWARD L. MEISTER

BRANCH OFFICES AND REPRESENTATIVES
CHICAGO, Peck and Billingslee, Inc., 185 No.
Wabash. Phone—Dearborn 2-0292

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The

VEGETABLE

Situation

PRODUCTION of winter vegetables during the 1954 season is forecast at about four per cent below 1953, according to the USDA. Larger production for artichokes, lima beans, beets, escarole, and lettuce is indicated. However, production of broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, kale, peas, and shallots will be less.

Most spectacular change in winter vegetables has occurred in California's desert areas and in Arizona where acreage of winter carrots has been sharply reduced following the relatively unfavorable marketing conditions of recent years.

ARTICHOKES

California expects to produce about 900,000 boxes during the 1953-54 harvest season, which is above last year. Increase is due in part to more acreage.

BROCCOLI

Production is expected to be less than last year. Arizona reports her crop in good condition. Broccoli in South Carolina and Texas, also, looks good.

CARROTS

Winter carrot crop is expected to be about 16 per cent less than last year. Sharp reductions in acreage in Arizona and California have accounted for part of this condition. In Texas, climatic and moisture conditions have been favorable for carrots in all areas.

CABBAGE

Production is expected to be slightly less than last year. Because of reduced acreage, crops in Arizona and Florida probably will be substantially lower this year. In Texas, favorable weather has enabled the crop, which was planted late, to make good progress.

CAULIFLOWER

Production will be about equal to last year. Reduced plantings and lighter production are forecast for Arizona and Florida, but in Texas the reverse has occurred where acreage has been increased in all sections.

CELERY

Celery crop will probably be slightly under that of last year. A slightly smaller acreage in California combined with smaller yield prospects has accounted for the expected reduced production. Weather conditions in California have been very favorable. Fields at Oceanside, in northern San Diego County, will be available for harvest in January. In Florida, celery has made good progress in spite of excessive rains.

LETTUCE

A slightly larger crop is forecast for this season. Total acreage, however, is somewhat smaller this season but yield prospects are more favorable in the important producing states. In Texas, the crop has developed under excellent conditions, while in Florida weather during most of the growing season was too warm and some fields are showing seeders. Heavy rains, also, were detrimental to the Florida crop.

GREEN PEAS

A very small crop will be harvested in Texas this season, about 33 per cent below last season. A decline in acreage in Texas and the discontinuing of growing winter peas in California are responsible for this trend.

SHALLOTS

Louisiana crop will probably be about 36 per cent below that harvested last season. This has been primarily due to reduced acreage. Production to date has been extremely light and volume supplies will probably not be available until mid-January.

ESCAROLE

Production is forecast above last year. This is primarily due to increased acreage. Plantings have made good progress despite unfavorable weather conditions.

EARLY POTATOES

Harvest is now forecast at 3,029,000 bushels. While this is 25 per cent smaller than last year, it is the second largest on record. In Florida, acreage is substantially smaller than last year. Texas reports an acreage about equal to last year.

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Onion planting in which coated seed is spaced eight rows per bed. Photographs courtesy Filtrol Corporation.

Pelleted Seed for Precision Planting

Costly hand thinning operations and larger crops result from the use of coated seed

By R. L. CAROLUS

Michigan State College

PRECISION planting of small seed of crops such as lettuce, carrot, onion, or turnip with present day mechanical planters has not yet been achieved. Where evenly spaced stands are essential for satisfactory growth or for a uniform quality product, any method that might allow the rapid planting of small vegetable seeds spaced from one-fourth to two or more inches apart would avoid tedious, costly hand-thinning operations. Frequently a labor shortage or a period of wet weather at germination delays thinning long enough to injure the crop or facilitate the spread of disease.

A vast amount of improvement in both precision planting methods and in protection against adverse climatic and soil conditions is still needed to assure even, well-spaced stands of most crops when unfavorable conditions for germination occur. Pelleting has resulted in a remarkable improvement in precision planting, and if it does not adversely affect germination, will probably prove to be economically sound on this basis. The direct planting of expensive seed becomes feasible through pelleting.

The pelleting process involves the coating of seed with inert, pulverized

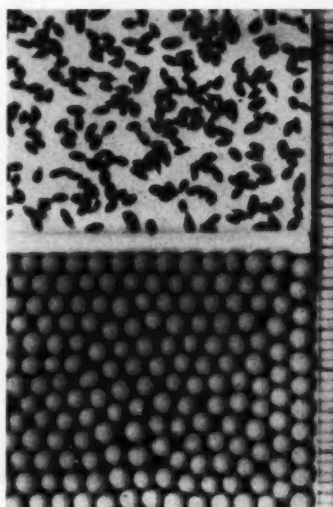
minerals. These materials may be fly ash, feldspar, celite, bentonite, or vermiculite, which are made to adhere by means of some non-toxic water-soluble plastic. The operation is performed in a rotary pan similar to those used in the manufacture of pills and some candies. Pelleting increases the size or the bulk of the seed from one to 20 or more times and is capable of

turning out an almost spherical product.

During the pelleting process any one of a combination of chemicals may be added to the coating materials and incorporated in the pellet. If desired, fungicides may be added at 10 to 50 times the concentration that can be made to adhere by conventional seed treating methods. Combinations of fungicides and insecticides may be added. In some cases results have indicated that large concentrations are highly desirable and beneficial in reducing loss from dampening-off and other soil-borne organisms. In other cases they are unwarranted or may even reduce germination.

The more insoluble fertilizer materials may be incorporated in substantial quantities in the pellet, and soluble materials including the minor elements may be added in small amounts. Increasing the phosphate concentration in the area near the germinating seed has proven to be a distinct advantage in many situations. The use of organic nitrogen carriers and powdered skimmed milk has proved beneficial in some cases through benefiting the plant directly or indirectly by stimulating bacterial activity in the neighborhood of the germinating seed.

The cost of the pelleting or coating
(Continued on page 16)



Left—Coated and uncoated carrot seed. Seed at top is uncoated; seed at bottom is coated.

THE BEST SEED IS NO LUXURY

An old subject with important new angles the grower will want to consider before buying

By VICTOR R. BOSWELL

U. S. Department of Agriculture

IT IS pointless these days to argue or even talk about poor seed versus good seed. It is obvious that no one can afford to plant poor seed, and, furthermore, we have seed laws that are designed to keep poor seed off the market. Our concern here is with good seed versus better seed, or with good seed versus the best seed.

Above the legal minimum standards there is some latitude for variation in the true economic value of seeds. The old statement that "the best seed is the cheapest seed" is true today in more ways or for more reasons than it has been in the past. It seems well for us to remind ourselves of some of the recent developments and situations that have a newly important bearing on this old subject.

As hand labor becomes more scarce and machines must be used to do more of the growers' work, precision of operations and uniformity of materials become more important. To insure uniform spacing of plants at the correct distances in the rows the seed must be of relatively uniform size and shape so that precision planters can handle it effectively.

Wide variations in size and shape within a single lot of seed may result in poor work by the planter. Some seeds may be placed too far apart for a full stand and some may be so close together that the plants will not develop properly without expensive hand thinning.

Some seeds are already being graded for size before sale and it is probable that additional kinds will be sized for adaptation to precision planters.

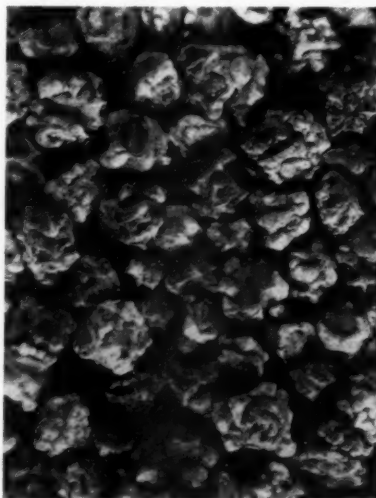
The increasing use of machines also makes more necessary than before highly dependable germination and seedling emergence, to get proper stands of plants economically. Spottiness of stand from poor germination is just as bad as that from irregular planting.

The property of seeds that we com-

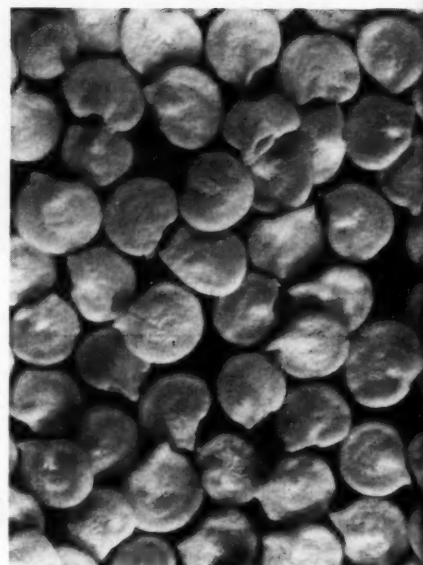
monly call viability involves more than merely the capacity to germinate, or even to push a seedling through the soil to the sunlight. There is a rapidly increasing appreciation of the capacity of seeds to produce seedlings and plants that will survive relatively unfavorable conditions and develop into high-grade, productive individuals.

Not all seeds that germinate produce equally sturdy seedlings. Some seedlings never emerge from the soil; and of those which emerge not all are able to develop into productive plants although they may appear quite sound and free of insect or disease attack. A conventional germination test is important and generally tells a great deal about the potentialities of a particular lot of seed, but it may not tell the whole story.

We have seen seeds from unfavorable storage conditions, for example, that produced almost 100 per cent intact seedlings of normal proportions which developed so slowly and so weakly as to be of dubious value in the field.



Beet Seed



Pepper Seed



Pea Seed

Studies of healthy but unproductive "loafer" plants in the field have shown that generally they are the slow or weak starters. Plants that emerge late or lag behind their neighbors when small not only stay behind but are often unfruitful or unmarketable although they appear normal and healthy.

AMERICAN VEGETABLE GROWER

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Research seedling improve planting. what the best seed of "loafer" or skips i be more it compete plants to

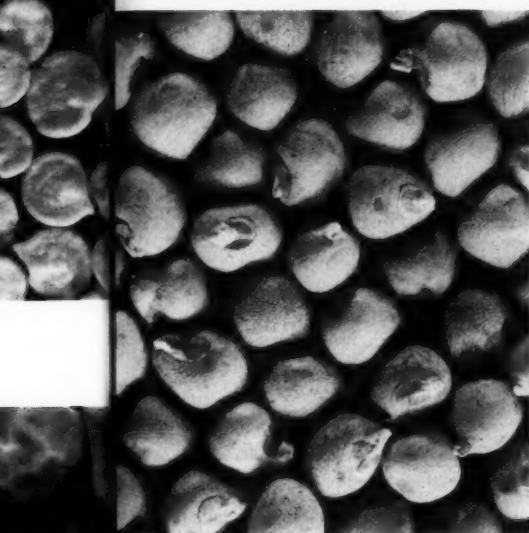
A relative table plan but any c astrous developm nose, bli black leg in cucum tomato an seed-born possibly with.

To the seed is a

JANUARY,



Okra Seed



Carrot Seed

All photographs by the author

Research agencies are studying seedling and plant vigor in order to improve evaluation of seeds before planting. With costs and competition what they are now growers need the best seeds to minimize the number of "loafer" plants and of blank hills or skips in the row. The "loafer" may be more costly than the skip because it competes with the adjacent normal plants to some extent.

A relatively small number of vegetable plant diseases are seed borne but any one of them can be truly disastrous when conditions favor its development and spread. Anthracnose, blights, and mosaic in beans, black leg in cabbage, angular leaf spot in cucumber, and bacterial canker in tomato are old enemies. Now we have seed-borne mosaic in lettuce and possibly some other crops to deal with.

To the extent that state certified seed is available it should be used.

Garden bean and cabbage seed from the arid West are recommended in preference to seed from rainy areas, and tomato seed "fermented" in the recovery process is recommended, all to minimize disease hazards.

Most American seed producers protect their customers, and themselves, by growing seed in places and by methods that keep the seed relatively disease-free. Don't take chances on "bargain" lots of seed of dubious background. Buy from sources of known dependability.

It means money in the grower's pocket if he uses seed stocks that produce even a little more yield, a little more uniformity, a little more attractiveness than run-of-the-market stocks of the variety he grows for a specific purpose. These superiorities beyond the average or beyond legal minimum standards may affect not only the yield but also the demand for the produce, and in turn the price and



Bean Seed

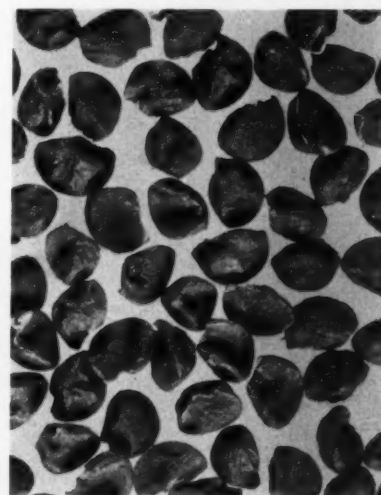


Onion Seed

the volume sold. Such superiorities cannot now be written into specifications for seeds but they exist and are worth looking for.

In seeking these superior seeds the grower is rather on his own except for seeds certified by responsible agencies. It is not the custom in this country for trade organizations or public agencies to recommend one source or another as the best. Growers, however, talk among themselves and word gets around as to who some of the best suppliers are.

The most practicable way to choose good seed is, first, to choose a good



Cabbage Seed

seedsman. Fortunately, there are many good ones, both small and large, in this country. Some seedsmen specialize in the production of only a few items, devote great care to those, and are noted for their excellence. For other items the grower may find that one or more other seedsmen are best able to meet his particular needs.

The grower should make a practice of making test plantings of seeds from a few of the best sources he can locate by grapevine or otherwise. When he finds a source that provides a "best" stock of an item for his particular conditions he should stay with that source as long as it meets his needs in a superior way.

The best seed costs more to produce than does merely good seed. It may not be reasonable to expect a seedsman to do the best possible jobs of development, stock maintenance, and production and then sell the seed at as low a price as that for which merely good seed can be sold. High price does not, of course, assure high quality; but if the best is to be obtained both its value to the grower and its cost of production must be taken into proper consideration. **THE END**

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PROMISING NEW VARIETIES

Here are outstanding varieties your seed houses consider worthy of trial



Big Boy tomato is a Burpee F₁ hybrid creation. It reaches peak yield about midseason and can be grown successfully in almost every section of the country. Fruits average 10 ounces in weight, are smooth, deep globe to deep oblate in shape. Scarlet-red skin covers the fine flavored, quality flesh. Foliage is moderately dense thus affording protection to the fruits against sunscald.

MORE often than not, a new, worthwhile variety of vegetable is the result of long years of research. Pains-taking care then goes into the selection of seed so that the end result will be a product worthy of the care given it.

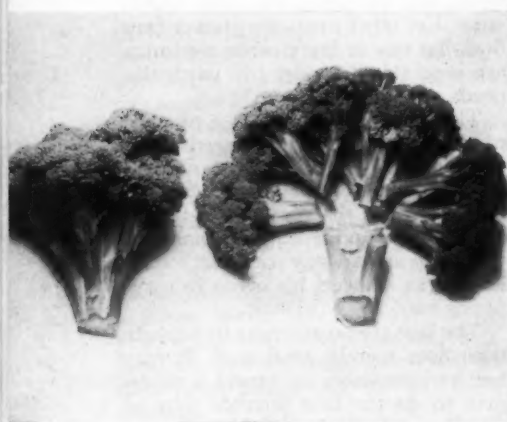
Seed of some of the varieties illustrated on these two pages as well as the following two is still in limited supply. This is particularly true of some of the new hybrids which are credited as being more vigorous in growth and better yielding than regular varieties.

Further information on these varieties may be obtained from the seed houses that introduced them. Their addresses are:

Associated Seed Growers, Inc., New Haven 2, Conn.; W. Atlee Burpee Co., Philadelphia 32, Pa.; Corneli Seed Co., 101 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis 2, Mo.; Ferry-Morse Seed Co., P. O. Box 778, Detroit 31, Mich.; and Northrup, King & Co., Minneapolis 13, Minn.



Corneli's Keystone Wonder Giant was developed for market, shipping, and canning purposes. It is a highly improved pure-lined pepper of the Florida Giant type. The deep glossy green fruits turn deep scarlet when ripe, measure 4½ inches long and 3¾ inches across; are mostly four-lobed. The plants have abundant foliage.



This extra early sprouting variety of broccoli, named Green Mountain, was developed by Ferry-Morse to meet the needs of market growers and freezers. The vigorous broad-leaved plant forms large, compact, dark green center heads which mature uniformly making it easy to harvest with few cuttings. Flower stems are long which facilitates dividing the heads for freezing. Laterals are produced somewhat slowly but sometimes nearly equal size of central heads.



Where a shorter top is desirable King Red beet, introduced by Northrup, King & Co., will answer the purpose. The dark green tinged with deep red top attains a height of 12 to 14 inches. The root is globe to round shape, smooth skinned, and uniform, with a uniform dark red interior.



Seed is available for commercial plantings of Asgrow's Badger Market cabbage, developed by Wisconsin AES and USDA. Badger is a yellows-resistant variety in the second early maturity class producing small, round, solid heads which stand well after maturity without breaking. Of particular interest in areas where Copenhagen Market and Golden Acre varieties are popular.

AMERICAN VEGETABLE GROWER

Crackproof matures a medium g Fruits are star crack



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Crackproof Pink is a Ferry-Morse tomato introduction. It matures about a day later than Stokesdale. Vines are of medium growth with good vigor and abundant foliage. Fruits are medium to large flattened globe and are free from star cracking. Skin is pink with a deep red, firm, meaty flesh.



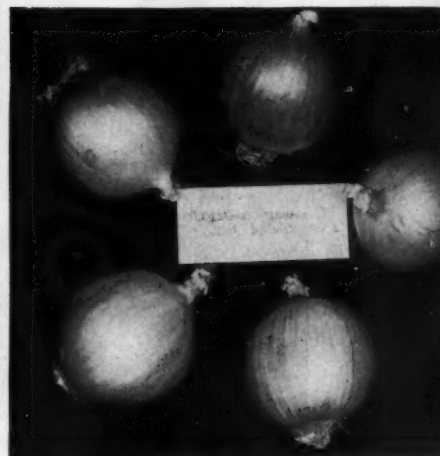
ForeMost E. E. No. 1 (Extra Early No. 1) hybrid sweet corn is offered by Ferry-Morse for limited 1954 sales. The variety is a day or two earlier than present leading varieties in the extra early field. Its 8-inch long, slightly tapered ears have 12 to 14 rows of bright golden yellow kernels. It requires 66 days to mature.



An All American Bronze Medal for 1952 was awarded **Golden Delight**, a Ferry-Morse cantaloupe introduction. It is for home garden and local market use and is not recommended for long distance shipping. This large, broad, oval melon is a **Pride of Wisconsin** type but is larger and earlier. Its thick salmon colored flesh has a delightful flavor.



Outstanding attribute of **Burpee Hybrid Cucumber** is its resistance to mosaic and downy mildew. It outyields open-pollinated varieties because the vines continue to produce long after other varieties have succumbed to these diseases. This hybrid is a white spine, slicing-type cucumber. It is recommended for the home garden, market grower, shipper, greenhouse culture, and hydroponics.



Keystone Yellow Sweet Spanish No. 6 was selected and propagated at high elevation for 15 years at Corelli's Twin Falls, Idaho, proving station from material originally developed by Prof. A. M. Binkley of Colorado Experiment Station. Produces tremendous tonnage of U. S. No. 1 per acre and stores overwinter with remarkably low shrinkage.

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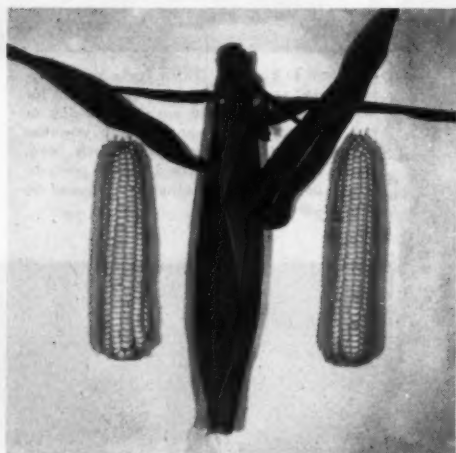
GROWER

JANUARY, 1954

PROMISING NEW VARIETIES



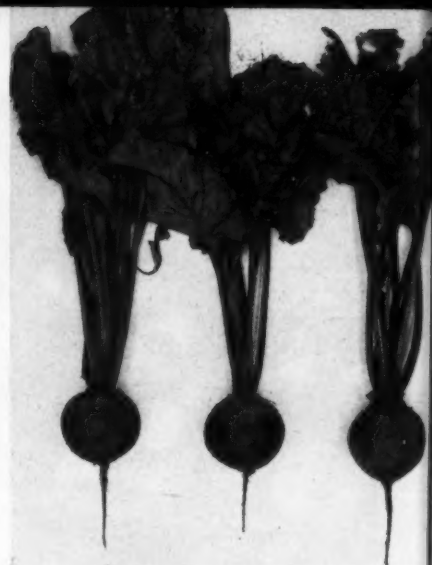
Mandarin Chinese cabbage, introduced by Ferry-Morse, has a deliciously different flavor and produces firm, solid heads which average approximately 8 to 9 inches in height and 4 to 5 inches in diameter at the broadest point. Mandarin matures a few days later than Michihli.



Earliest Market King was developed by Northrup, King to obtain an early high quality hybrid corn especially adapted for northern areas.



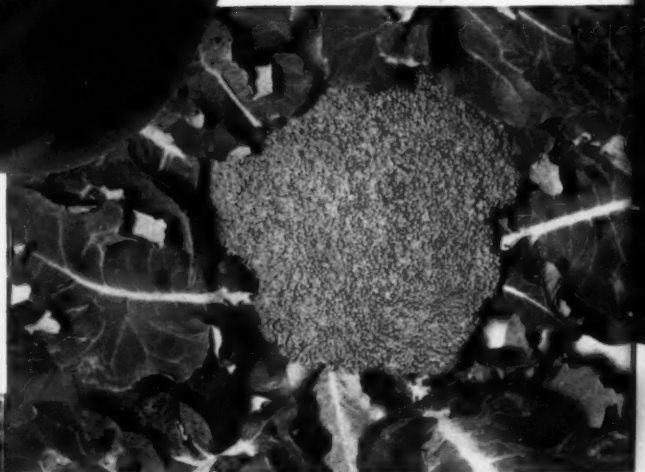
Hollander Short Stem Northrup-King strain cabbage has a deep round shaped head about 6 inches in diameter and weighing 4 to 5 pounds. A good late cabbage for market and storage. Heads are small and become very solid at an early stage of growth.



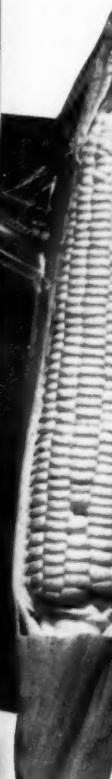
Special Crosby beet, a Northrup, King introduction, is an early home and market garden variety. It is outstanding for early bunching. Root is smooth and round with a small tap root. Interior is medium red. Top is 10 to 12 inches tall, dark green tinged with maroon.



Burpee Hybrid Eggplant is a true, first generation hybrid. Vigorous plant produces continuously till frost. Fruits are oval, medium sized, and of a good dark purple with a high gloss. Recommended for home and market gardens, and its adaptability is widespread. It is more resistant to drought and disease than any other commercial variety.



Grand Central broccoli is a main season variety developed at the Asgrow Eastern Breeding Station. It matures uniformly, the main head being followed by a heavy crop of sprouts which can be harvested in four cuttings instead of the usual six. It has performed particularly well in middle Atlantic and Southeastern states. In the North and Northeast it should be transplanted early.



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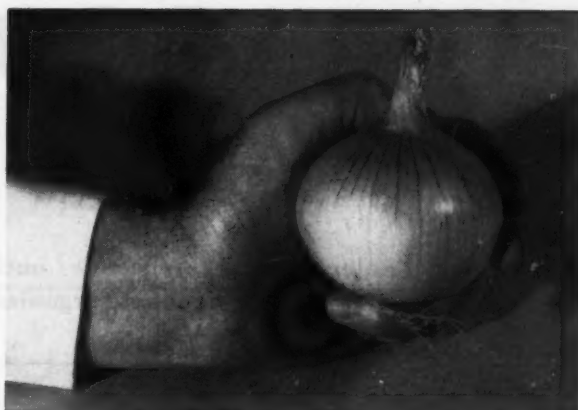
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Yalo Wonder pepper, an Asgrow introduction, is resistant to tobacco mosaic and less seriously injured than standard varieties by cucumber mosaic. Fruits are of California Wonder type with thick walls and dark green color.



Strictly limited seed supplies of **Asgrow Y51 Hybrid** onion are available. This exclusive Asgrow hybrid matures with the widely adapted Asgrow Y41 or as an early main crop variety in the Northern and Western states. It is not suitable for production in the far South.

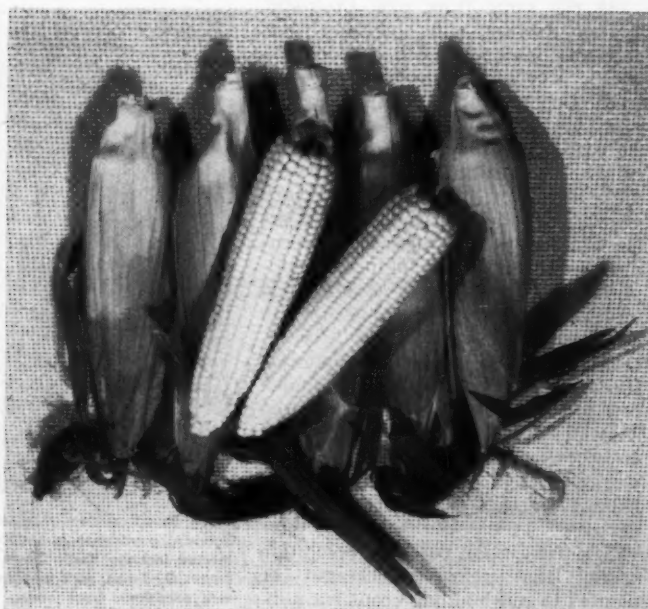


Corneli's Gold Rush is an early yellow hybrid corn variety. Its earliness is useful to canners since it starts their packing season two weeks earlier. It is also valuable for late planting to avoid main brood of European corn borer or to make last minute additions to acreage. A favorite with shippers on muck lands of Florida, with canners in Canada and the northern states, and with home and market gardeners everywhere.

Asgrow Golden 50 is a midseason hybrid corn variety. Plants are slightly taller and less subject to suckering than Golden Cross Bantam and the main ear is carried about 5 inches higher on the stalk. Ears average 7 to 9 inches in length and row count averages 14 to 16. It stands up well in hot, dry weather and is resistant to bacterial wilt.



Royal Chantenay is a Northrup, King carrot introduction developed for the canner and freezer but suited also for home and market gardener. Roots grow to a length of 6½ inches and a width at shoulder of 2½ inches. Interior is a reddish orange. Tops are 15 to 20 inches tall.



VGAA LOOKS TO '54

**Leaders discuss vegetable outlook
and role of national organization**

THE whys and wherefores of successful vegetable production were thoroughly explored during the 45th annual meeting of the Vegetable Growers Association of America, Inc., held early in December in St. Louis, Mo. Growers facing uncertain conditions could ill afford to miss so important a meeting.

In the year approaching more thought must be devoted to more efficient use of tools and chemicals, declared VGAA President A. Lee Towson of New Jersey. This is truly a chemical age, he said, and changes are taking place so fast that those who can't keep up-to-date are losing out.

Next year's meeting is scheduled to take place with the New York State Vegetable Growers Association at the new War Memorial Building in Syracuse. There will be ample space for heavy machinery exhibits.

VGAA leaders formally decided to open a Washington office and hire a full-time paid secretary. Present secretary, H. D. Brown of Ohio State University, who has served the association for many years, is desirous of giving up the position. Vegetable growers need a voice on the spot regarding national legislative matters.

At the same time past president Walter Pretzer, now chairman of a membership drive, will attempt to double VGAA membership. He has studied the membership potential of every area in the country and his carefully laid plans should benefit the association immeasurably.

A factor of importance to every vegetable producer is the threat of released acreages. Because the government is committed to high price supports, large acreages of certain field crops will be removed from production and possibly will be planted to vegetables. Not only would this increase the vegetable supply unfairly but it could upset the smooth operation of associations of canning crop growers created through great effort and hard work of enlightened growers who have bonded together to bargain with canners.

The association passed a resolution asking that released acreages be planted to soil-building crops for non-

To the members of the VGAA during their national convention, Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson sent his greetings: "I want you and your fellow members to know of my appreciation for your splendid interest and support in the development and administration of a sound farm program."

Support your national organization by adding your name to the growing list of members. Dues are nominal. For details contact your local vegetable growers' association.—Ed.

harvested, non-grazing, soil-conserving purposes only and that compliance be made a condition of eligibility for any price supports or subsidy payment.

By unanimous vote the association resolved in favor of Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson's program which is opposed to public subsidies and government price supports. At a panel discussion on government in agriculture, the congressman from Pennsylvania Karl C. King, who is a member of the House Agricultural

Committee, criticized the trend towards socialization, declaring that farmers today are more dependent on government gifts and government regulation than they are on their own ability to meet competition.

Mr. King declared himself in favor of a price guarantee which is below the cost of production. He would like to see legislation which gradually reduces high supports to a disaster-preventing level of 70 per cent of parity.

Growers at the meeting asked that Congress clarify to the ICC its intent to maintain the agricultural exemption on trip-leasing. Classifying vegetable workers on farms near large cities as agricultural workers within the area of production as established in the Fair Labor Standards Act was also requested.

The association resolved that tariff regulations and import quotas should prevent the disruption of markets by produce grown under conditions of cheap labor and low taxes.

Tariffs were discussed more thoroughly by the National Association of Greenhouse Growers. Its president, O. Keith Owen of Terre Haute, Ind., told of the work his organization has done to bring to the attention of legislators the harm caused the greenhouse vegetable industry by excessive imports of vegetables from Cuba and Mexico.

"Unfortunately," he said, "the new administration has taken quite the same attitude as the Roosevelt and Truman administrations in its belief that practically all tariff restrictions are unnecessary."

William M. Case, acting executive
(Continued on page 20)

ILLINOIS	1124	1469	1296	6520	W. VIRGINIA
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TOTAL		2455	3873	50529	TOTAL



Three VGAA officers snapped during recent convention in St. Louis. From left to right: A. Lee Towson, president; James D. Swan, 1st vice president; H. D. Brown, secretary. Other officers elected include: Keith Owen, vice president, greenhouse; Harold Evans, vice president, potatoes; James D. Swan, vice president, muck; Paul Dickman, vice president, marketing; A. C. Thompson, vice president, truck crops; A. W. Chambers, vice president, processing; Elmer Steil, treasurer.

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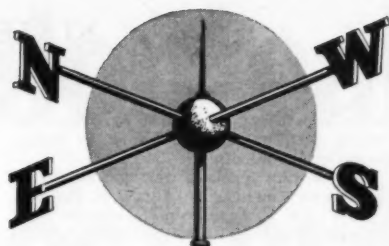
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NEWS

- New Jersey Grower Produces 25.88 Tons Tomatoes Per Acre
- Georgia Growers Pioneer in Growing Florida Pascal

NEW JERSEY—A per acre production of 25.88 tons of tomatoes won for Everett Abrams of Vincentown the title of champion New Jersey tomato grower for 1953. In honor of his feat he was presented with a \$100 savings bond by Dr. Frank App, president, New Jersey Cannery Association. The award was made during the annual Tomato Day program of the recent state horticultural society convention.



Officers of Missouri Vegetable Growers Association, elected during recent VGAA convention, are, from left: Clyde Cunningham, secretary, Columbia; Milton Mueller, president, Chesterfield; and Paul McIntyre, vice-president, Kansas City.

Nathan Forman of Englishtown ranked second with 24.67 tons per acre, and Gerald Van Treuren of Yardville third with 23.04 tons.

Stanley G. Blaszyk of Bordentown was crowned "Quality Champion" with a yield of 14.91 tons per acre which graded 86.9 per cent U. S. No. 1, 12.3 per cent U. S. No. 2, and 0.8 per cent culls. He also received a \$100 bond.

Two brothers, Roger C. and Lester C. Jones, Jr., Mount Holly, won the 4-H Club tomato growing championship, while the Future Farmers of America winner was Bart Jennings of Vincentown. All three boys received engraved wrist watches from the canners' association.

C. H. Nissley, vegetable crops specialist at Rutgers University, who supervised the gathering of records from the contract tomato growers, reports that 669 growers qualified for the Ten Ton Club in 1953 as compared with only 132 in 1952 and 767 in 1951. Of the 669 growers, 29 managed to produce more than 20 tons to the acre, 160 exceeded 15 tons, and 480 got 10 tons or more.

This is the 20th year a Ten Ton Club contest has been sponsored by the state university and the state canners' association to encourage the growing of greater yields of quality tomatoes.

GEORGIA—There's a new crop in the Georgia mountains! Two hard-working growers—Henry Cosby and Curtis Maddox of Mountain City, Ga.—brought through a

five-acre planting in 1953 of Florida Pascal celery. They did a fine job and deserve a pioneering medal.—Ray Sheldrake, Asst. Ext. Hort., Athens.

MARYLAND—Fred, Ben, and Mort Fox, sons of Harry Fox, of Easton, last year increased by 20 per cent the production of Henderson limas on land treated with SNOSBP (Dow Premerge or Sinox PE) for weed control immediately after seeding. Six pounds per acre of dinitro (Dow Premerge or Sinox PE) were applied as a spray in 25 gallons of water. This treatment controlled all weeds and only one cultivation was needed in late summer for aeration. James C. Saulsbury, whose farm is also near Easton, feels that the same dinitro sprays saved his crop of Fordhook limas.

Wicomico County leads the state, the nation, and (we assume) the world in the yield per acre of sweetpotatoes. An average per acre yield of 175 bushels puts Maryland on top again in 1953.

Two hundred growers gathered in Salisbury, Md., to hear the latest in vegetable production techniques developed at the universities of Maryland, Virginia, and Delaware. The occasion was the annual meeting of the Peninsula Horticultural Society.

Queen Annes County Extension Agent, James Walter Eby, passed away recently. Mr. Eby was agent in Queen Annes since 1950.—Andrew A. Duncan, Ext. Veg. Crop Spec., College Park.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Seven hundred members of the Southern Seedsmen's Association met at the Statler Hotel, November 29-December 2, 1953, for their 35th annual convention, which was termed by John Meredith, Jr., of Shreveport, La., executive secretary-treasurer, as "most successful." Attendance was under that of other recent conventions, but still quite high.

The members, including seed growers,

wholesalers, and retailers, heard Dr. Carroll Barnes, of Charleston, S. C., speak on "Breeding Better Vegetable Varieties for the South;" Under Secretary of Agriculture True D. Morse speak on "The Solid Future of Agriculture;" and Alex Sehlmeier, of New York, N. Y., discuss "Importance of Good Public Relations to the Seed Trade."

A tour of the nation's capital area, including one afternoon at the noted agricultural experiment station at nearby Beltsville, Md., was a feature of the convention program.

The delegates came from the eight southeastern states, with those from Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina serving as "hosts" for the convention.—Larston D. Farrar.

OHIO—Vegetable and potato growers attending the 39th annual meeting of the Ohio Vegetable and Potato Growers Association in Toledo, February 1-3, will hear latest information on production and marketing of quality vegetables and potatoes. Convention headquarters: Commodore Perry Hotel.

In addition to general sessions for all growers, special sessions will be held on greenhouse vegetables, potatoes, and outdoor truck crops. Extensive exhibits and displays of new pesticides, packages, equipment, seed, and similar supplies used by vegetable growers will be of interest to all. One of the highlights of the meeting will be the annual banquet on Tuesday evening, February 2, when the 1954 Ohio Vegetable queen will be crowned. The queen will reign during the year.

Panel discussions on various phases of vegetable and potato production and marketing, as well as talks on timely subjects by various experts will be presented. Topics for panel discussion include marketing greenhouse vegetable crops, plant growing problems and their solution, new develop-

(Continued on page 14)



Illinois Vegetable Growers Association elected these officers during recent VGAA convention. From left: George Powell, Jr., director, East St. Louis; Arthur Selme, secretary-treasurer, Rock Falls; Walter Sass, president, Chicago; Harold Fingerhut, vice-president, East St. Louis; Clyde Weissert, past director, East St. Louis.

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Every agricultural worker exposed to toxic insecticides such as Parathion, TEPP, Systox, Aldrin, Toxaphene, BHC, Chlordane, etc., should wear a respirator. Some of these are almost odorless—others are nauseating—ALL ARE TOXIC!

Effective protection is provided by Willson Agrisol and Agri-Tepp respirators. They are light in weight, comfortable, eliminate unpleasant odors and toxic danger and are U. S. D. A. tested.

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Established 1870
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STATE NEWS

(Continued from page 13)

ments in pest control, what to look for when buying seed potatoes, and how to reduce potato grade defects.

Out-of-state speakers who will appear on the program include Dr. Victor R. Boswell, USDA; Dr. R. L. Carolus, Michigan State College; Dr. C. E. Dieter, Dow Chemical Company; and Dr. Malcolm H. McVickar, National Fertilizer Association.

Dr. Boswell will discuss recent developments in the field of vegetable and potato research. The relationship between irrigation and various cultural practices like spacing, fertilizer application, and related items will be discussed by Dr. Carolus, who will also tell of recent developments in vegetable packaging.

The timely subject of soil fumigation to control diseases, nematodes, and weeds will be discussed by Dr. Dieter. Dr. McVickar will give latest information on how to apply fertilizer for vegetable crops.

A ladies program has also been planned. All growers are invited to attend.—E. C. Wittmeyer, Sec'y, Columbus 10.

MICHIGAN—Celery growers and shippers who met in Zeeland in early December for the third annual meeting of the Michigan Celery Promotion Association were complimented by Bernard J. Imming, field director, United Merchandising Institute, for their "Quality First" program. Mr. Imming stressed the importance of not only seeing that first grade, high quality celery be put in every package, but that this quality be preserved until it is used by Mrs. Consumer.

New offices of the National Potato Council are at 541-42 Munsey Building, Washington, D. C. William M. Case of East Grand Forks, Minn., nationally known potato man and executive director of the council, has his headquarters in the new location.

Undoubtedly the 1954 plantings will show a greater proportion of Pascal varieties than in the past, as part of the reason for lagging demand for the 1953 crop was attributed to too much Golden for the trade to absorb.

The association, organized to promote the welfare of Michigan's celery industry, is governed by a 15-man board of directors. During the meeting Harold Schut of Hudsonville was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors. Re-elected were: Lawrence VerSluis of Kalamazoo; Ed Weesies of Montague, George Westrate of Jenison, Herm Vande Bunte of Hudsonville, and Dick Harvey of Muskegon.—Howard Trapp, Sec'y, Beulah.

MAINE—Gerard Dionne's new potato warehouse at Hammond Siding in Van Buren was the scene of a recent potato car loading demonstration. The techniques involved in the use of Dionne's new machinery for grading and packaging potatoes were viewed by 20 growers, shippers, and foremen. In charge was Arling C. Hazlett, extension service economist in marketing of the University of Maine, Orono.

Uniformly, neatly loaded potato cars do much to impress the receiver with a good job done by the loader, stated Hazlett. Proper carloading helps to reflect careful handling of the potatoes all along the line. Such a minor thing as stacking the bags

always with the brand name up is a sign of such care in loading, cautioned Hazlett.

FLORIDA—The prepackaging of radishes in Florida is sweeping through the radish industry like a grass fire. An aggressive celery grower in the Belle Glade area is in the process of building one of the latest and most complete mobile celery field harvesters ever constructed in this state.

George H. Cooper, Princeton, was honored by the Florida Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association during its recent 10th annual convention in Miami with a distinguished service award. The citation was in the form of a plaque, for unselfish service in the interest of Florida agriculture.

"Strength in Unity" was the theme of the talk presented during the convention by S. R. Smith, Production and Marketing Administration. Smith told the growers that marketing agreements and orders are by no means a cure-all. The marketing of vegetables starts before a furrow is turned or a seed planted. "Growers should tailor their plantings to the amount it is reasonable to expect can be sold at profitable prices," Smith said.

Andrew Duda, Jr., Oviedo was elected president of the association, Dixon Pearce, Miami, vice-president; and Joffre C. David, secretary-treasurer.—George Talbott, Orlando.

ILLINOIS—William F. Lomasney has resigned from the University of Illinois to accept a position with the extension service in the USDA, Washington, D. C. Mr. Lomasney was in charge of the distributive education program conducted in cooperation with fruit and vegetable wholesalers and retailers within the state. In Washington he will head up this type of work in the federal extension service.

Gordon Kleiman, a native of Michigan, is now conducting the Illinois program. Much of Kleiman's time during the past year has been spent on merchandising in retail stores.—Norman F. Oebker, Urbana.

CALENDAR OF COMING MEETINGS & EXHIBITS

Jan. 7—Maryland Vegetable Growers Assn. annual meeting, Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore.—Andrew A. Duncan, Ext. Veg. Crop Spec., College Park.

Jan. 8-9, 1954—Connecticut Vegetable Growers Assn. annual meeting, Hotel Stratfield, Bridgeport.—E. C. Minnum, Ext. Vegetable Specialist, Storrs.

Jan. 13—Michigan Agricultural Conference annual banquet, Kellogg Center, Michigan State College campus East Lansing.—Howard Trapp, Beulah.

Jan. 19—Maine Vegetable and Small Fruit Growers Assn. annual meeting, Lewiston Armory, Lewiston.—Robert W. Paulson, Ext. Vegetable Specialist, Orono.

Jan. 20-21—Suffolk County Vegetable Growers' 19th annual convention, Farm Bureau Auditorium, Riverhead, L. I., N. Y.—Walter G. Been, Sec'y, County Agr. Agent, Riverhead, L. I., N. Y.

Feb. 1-3, 1954—39th annual meeting Ohio Vegetable and Potato Growers Association, Commodore Perry Hotel, Toledo.—E. C. Wittmeyer, Ohio State Univ., Columbus 10.

Feb. 4-5, 1954—University of Wisconsin Farm and Home Week vegetable crops program in conjunction with Wisconsin Muck Farmers' Assn. annual meeting, University of Wisconsin, Madison.—O. B. Combs, Sec'y, Madison 6.

Feb. 10-11—Suffolk County Potato Growers' 22nd annual convention, Polish Hall, Riverhead, L. I., N. Y.—Walter G. Been, Sec'y, County Agr. Agent, Riverhead, L. I., N. Y.

Feb. 18-20—Watermelon Growers and Distributors Assn., Shamrock Hotel, Houston, Tex.—J. J. Parrish, Sec'y-Treas., Adel, Ga.

Malathion* called "the most promising new insecticide"!

Why "most promising"? Because malathion offers these combined advantages:

- high insect toxicity
- low mammalian toxicity
- compatibility
- quickly disappearing residues

Years of testing by state and federal authorities and actual field use have proved that malathion offers you all these benefits:

Controls mites and aphids and many other insect pests on fruits and vegetables.

Much more toxic to insects than to mammals. "One of the safest insecticides to handle," reports USDA. Necessary precautions for safe handling similar to those for DDT.

Compatible in spray tank with most other spray materials.

Residues on crops disappear quickly. On most crops malathion residues are less than 1.0 part per million ten days after last application.

Practically 100% kill on turnip aphids

A Southern Experiment Station applied 2½ lbs. of 25% wettable malathion in 100 gallons of water on a heavily infested turnip crop and obtained practically a 100% kill of all turnip aphids. Malathion also controls aphids on other crops, as well as Mexican bean beetle, leafhoppers and many other vegetable pests.

A product of American Cyanamid agricultural research, malathion can help you farm more profitably, more easily.



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MALATHION insecticides are available from well known manufacturers. Consult your local agricultural authorities for suggestions on dosages and application procedures.

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Control, Protect With Tennessee's Copper FUNGICIDES

Don't run the risk of losing your crops by using a fungicide less potent than Copper. Begin using a TC Copper-Based fungicide before blight attacks. Spray with it early and late to assure far superior control of persistent fungus diseases, including blight. The Tennessee Corporation are basic producers of Copper and produce Copper-based fungicides for practically every purpose. Insist on a TC Copper-based fungicide for the most thorough control and protection.

REQUEST: That your local dealer furnish you Tennessee TRI-BASIC Copper Sulphate when buying Copper dust mixtures.

ES-MIN-EL

Es-Min-El is now available in spray or dust form. If you haven't mineralized your soil, you can now feed these minerals to your plants through the leaves and stems. Es-Min-El spray or dust is a neutral form of Copper, Manganese and Zinc.

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TRI-BASIC

TRI-BASIC Copper Sulphate is a chemically stable copper fungicide containing not less than 53% metallic copper. TRI-BASIC Copper Sulphate can be used as a spray or dust on practically all truck crops and citrus crops. Control persistent fungus diseases — correct copper deficiencies from a nutritional standpoint. Use TC TRI-BASIC Copper Sulphate.

COP-O-ZINK

COP-O-ZINK is a new, neutral copper-zinc fungicide containing 42% copper and 11% zinc. COP-O-ZINK gives superior performance in control of fungus diseases. COP-O-ZINK'S composition of two essential elements gives it added value in correcting deficiencies of zinc and copper and in stimulating plant growth. COP-O-ZINK is compatible with all inorganic and organic insecticides. No lime is required. For use in spraying or dusting.

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MICROGEL

MICROGEL contains 50% copper, as metallic and is chemically stable. Can be used most effectively on all truck crops — also grapes, citrus fruit, melons and strawberries. Microgel is simple to use. It can be added directly to spray tanks, saving time and labor.



PELLETED SEED

(Continued from page 5)

process varies with the type of seed, the chemicals incorporated, and the relative size of the pellet. Prices have ranged from about five cents a pound for coating large seeds like sweet corn and beans to \$5 a pound for small, irregular, lightweight seeds, such as lettuce. In many cases the reduction in seed requirement more than makes up for the cost of the process. Pelleting increases the weight of the seed from four to five times in the case of cabbage or cucumber to 20 to 25 times in the case of carrots.

During the last five years we have co-operated on many trials using laboratory and commercially coated seed. Both outstanding successes and complete failure have been observed. Germination is one of the most critical stages in the life of a plant, involving many chemical changes influenced by variable temperature, moisture, and oxygen conditions for the particular crop in question. Each kind of seed has its own particular type of seed coat that plays a part in regulating these factors during germination. When an additional coat of inert materials is applied, available air and moisture conditions to the germinating seed are altered and some additional energy is required for the young plant to push through the coat. Only clean, vigorous seed with lots of vitality should be pelleted.

In most cases the seed's own coat takes up water quite readily, but the coating materials, in general, do not possess this characteristic and the necessary moisture for germination moves more slowly through them. On the basis of many tests, coated seed were found to require from one to two more days for germination than bare seed. However, this was not of any great importance if the seed pellet was protected by an incorporated fungicide to prevent infection during this slower germination.

Sufficient Moisture Required

As would be expected, pelleted seed gave a relatively better germination performance under moist than under dry soil conditions. Frequently difficulties in germination of pelleted carrot seed were related to the fact that the seed must be planted quite shallow and requires more moisture than most for germination. A well-prepared seed bed with satisfactory moisture is necessary for successful germination of carrot seed. Pelleted seed of most crops was found to germinate relatively better on muck than on mineral soil, which is probably related to better surface moisture conditions.

Pelleting is well adapted for use in

growing flower, and planting for large of vacuum seeds for

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growing well spaced cabbage, cauliflower, and tomato seedlings for transplanting and is being used successfully for large-scale flat seeding with the use of vacuum equipment to pick up single seeds for spoting.

It is a difficult and tedious job to thin head lettuce properly. Tests have shown that spacing pelleted seed at one-inch intervals reduced the seed requirement by over 75 per cent and also the labor required to thin the stand. The wider spacing reduced injury at time of thinning and resulted in a higher percentage of evenly matured heads at harvest.

Direct seeding of crops including celery that are usually transplanted is being attempted in some areas to reduce labor costs. With the continued improvement in chemical weed control measures, in the near future hand weeding in the row should be virtually eliminated.

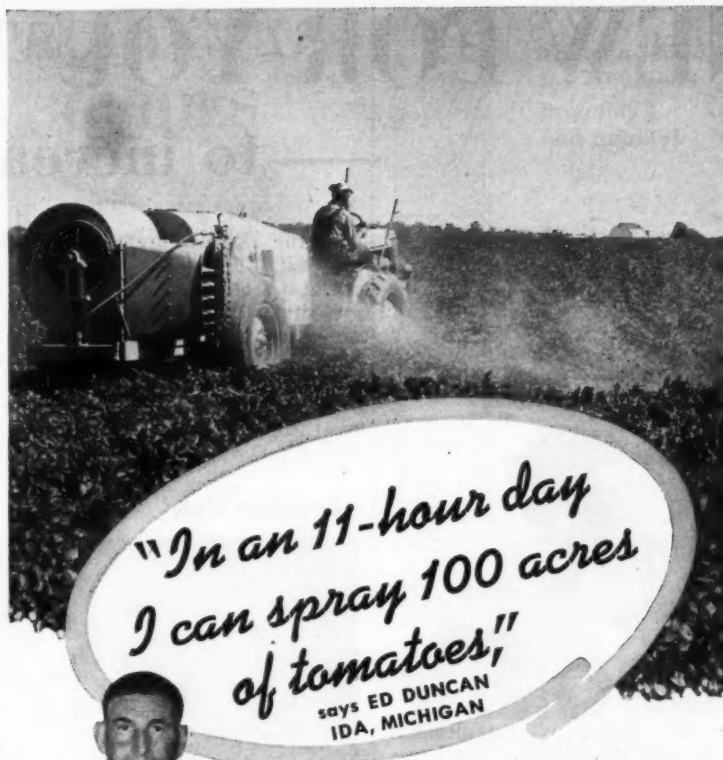
In recent tests pelleted onion seed germinated better than bare seed on both mineral and muck soil. In pelleting onion seed, large quantities of fungicide can be incorporated to reduce seedling losses from smut. The evenly spaced stand will not only result in a more uniform size of bulb but will allow better air movement around the plant and reduce the susceptibility to infection by mildew.

Although melons, cucumbers, and sweet corn can be fairly evenly spaced without increasing their size by coating, pelleted seed of these crops has shown up particularly well when planted during wet, cold periods of early spring. Germination has frequently been more than doubled by incorporating one to two per cent (based on seed weight) of a fungicide during the pelleting process.

Problems with Pelleted Seed

The use of pelleted seed has not developed as rapidly as might have been expected on the basis of its desirable features. Seed houses are beset with plenty of difficulties in marketing seed that will always produce satisfactorily in the hands of the grower. If they were to market pelleted seed, their difficulties in assuring a trouble-free stand would be increased.

Problems in pelleting involve type of coat for different crops, method used in its application and drying, presence of foreign matter in the seed which becomes pelleted. At present not too many growers are equipped with planters that would allow them to do a perfect precision job of planting. Poor seed beds and dry surface soils result in poor germination of pelleted seed. However, unless some better means of facilitating precision planting is developed, the use of pelleted seed will become necessary for profitable vegetable production. THE END



MYERS CONCENTRATE FIELD SPRAYER

Fewer days spraying, lower labor costs, higher quality yields . . . these are a few of the reasons growers the country over are turning to Myers Concentrate Sprayers.

One man with a Myers concentrate sprayer can cover in one day what three men and a dilute rig can cover in two days.

But most important of all are the results. Growers everywhere report fewer culls and higher grade yields after using a Myers concentrate sprayer for all field crop spraying.

You, too, can benefit from the labor-saving, time-saving, profit-making advantages of concentrate spraying the Myers way. An experienced Myers representative can show you the way to easier, more dependable field crop spraying.

Write today for the name of your
nearest Myers Dealer.

MYERS POWER SPRAYERS

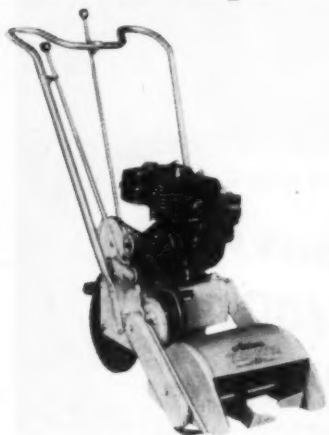
THE F. E. MYERS & BRO. CO.
Ashland, Ohio



NEW FOR YOU

—to increase your profits

The Grower's Helper



The new Ariens rotary tiller has been developed for year around use. It climaxes 21 years of development and features easy interchangeability of implements. The Ariens Yardster is available with or without wheel drive and is powered by a 2 h.p. engine that is easy to start and economical to operate. Why not become acquainted with this new model. Simply write C. I. Wilson, Ariens Company, 119 Calumet St., Brillion, Wis. He will be delighted to send you full details, without obligation.

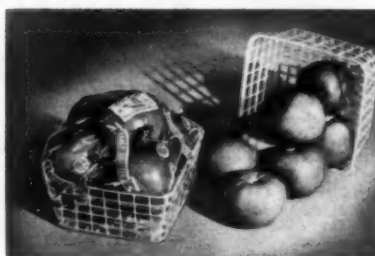
Profitable Reading



We have just finished reading a most informative booklet of over 100 pages on vegetable varieties which is important to all vegetable growers. For example, 20 new varieties are discussed and many of the older tried

and true varieties are also described in detail. The All-America selections are also featured. These descriptions are valuable to the canner, packer, processor, market gardener, or seedsmen. This booklet should be part of your library, and you can have it free of charge. Just write R. D. Coursen, Northrup, King & Co., 15th Ave. N.E. & Jackson, Minneapolis 13, Minn.

"Fresher-Pak"



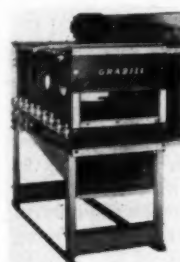
The new "Fresher-Pak" is a plastic container available in yellow, green, white, blue, and red. This new plastic box can be wrapped in a printed cellophane bag, capped with a small sheet held in place by a rubber band, or completely overwrapped with a full sheet of film. Growers in New Jersey are reporting success with this package. Write Cello-Masters, Inc., 1155 Randall Ave., New York 59, N.Y.

Super Tuffy



It's tough. It's rugged. It's engineered to make hard jobs easy. The Super Tuffy with all steel welded frame and with a separate clutch for attachments is an ideal tractor for use on vegetable acreage. S. L. Allen & Co., Inc., 3419 N. 5th St., Philadelphia 40, Pa., will be glad to send you full information.

Washer, Waxer



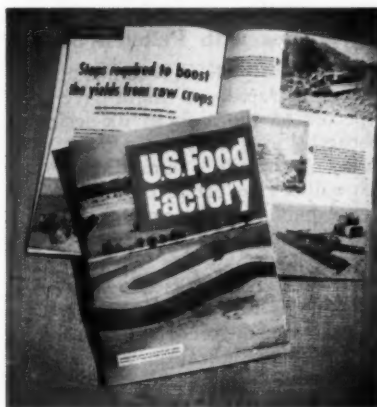
Many vegetable growers are washing and waxing vegetables for higher profits. John Bean has just announced the introduction of a washer-absor-



ber (above left) and a waxer (right) for the small grower. The unit performs beautifully and is economical to operate and built to last.

Both machines have capacities ranging from 100 to 170 bushels per hour. Why not write Eldon Robbins, John Bean Div., Food Machinery & Chemical Corp., Box 840, Lansing 4, Mich.

Food Factory



Five people to feed for every four now eating. That is the prediction for things to come in 1975 by our Government. International Harvester is taking positive steps to insure the development of proper equipment for you. We urge you to write Leonard Owen, International Harvester Co., 180 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 1, Ill., for a copy of "U. S. Food Factory."

AMERICAN VEGETABLE GROWER

VARIETIES YOU SHOULD KNOW

Burpee's Big Boy Giant Hybrid Tomato

Largest of the Burpee Hybrids—the tomato for the particular trade, a true F₁ hybrid. Huge, perfectly smooth, firm, red fruits that bring maximum returns on both roadside stands and the market.

Many weigh 1 lb. or more; average size 10 ozs. At its peak in mid-season but keeps on bearing large fruits after many varieties decline in both yield and size. Does well either staked or not.

Every grower needs Big Boy. A trial planting will convince you. Complete information and low growers' prices mailed on request.

A. R. Junginger
MANAGER,
MARKET GROWERS DIVISION

W. ATLEE BURPEE CO.
Seed Growers
PHILADELPHIA 32, PA.
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The Original Soluble Fertilizer for VEGETABLE GROWERS

VHPF

(pronounced "VIP")

6-25-15

plus essential secondary
elements
6 lbs. treats 1 acre

1. VHPF is the finest starter solution formula available and supplements the regular fertilizer program.
2. VHPF replaces nutrients lost by heavy rains or adverse growing conditions.
3. VHPF is compatible with pesticides and can be economically applied in the same operation.
4. VHPF improves quality, color, and yield.

Write for booklet

**MILLER CHEMICAL & FERTILIZER
CORP.**
BALTIMORE 18, MD.

PRODUCTION GUIDES

ACREAGE and production guides for 17 spring vegetables to be marketed in fresh form principally during April, May, and June, 1954, and for 1954 early commercial potatoes have been announced by the USDA.

The sum of the acreage guides for the 17 spring vegetables is 469,550 acres. This is 7 per cent less than the acreage harvested in 1953 but slightly more than the acreage harvested in 1952. The 1954 early commercial potato acreage guide is 210,900 acres. This is 24 per cent less than the sharply increased 1953 acreage but only 4 per cent less than the acreage planted in 1952.

The 1954 spring vegetable guides suggest acreage increases for late spring snap beans, beets, late spring cucumbers, shallots, and late spring tomatoes. Acreage decreases are suggested for early spring cabbage, carrots, early spring lettuce, early and late spring onions, green peppers, early spring tomatoes, and watermelons. No change in acreage is suggested for lima beans, early and mid-spring snap beans, late spring cabbage, cantaloupes, cauliflower, celery, early spring cucumbers, green peas, and spinach.

Acreage Decreases for Potatoes

The 1954 acreage guides for early commercial potatoes suggest acreage decreases of 35 per cent for the winter group, 25 per cent for the early spring group, 30 per cent for the late spring group, and 5 per cent for the summer group. Exceptions in the last two groups are South Carolina and Texas with suggested decreases of 10 and 50 per cent, respectively.

If production is in line with 1954 guides and if marketings follow a normal time pattern for the season, supplies should be in balance with needs at a continuing high level of economic activity. The 1953 production of spring vegetables (excluding potatoes) was 6 per cent more than in 1952 but prices generally were below the 1952 levels while grower cost continued high.

Early commercial potato prices were sharply lower in 1953 than in 1952 and production was 28 per cent greater than in 1952. Consideration has been given in the guides for early commercial potatoes in 1954 to the prospective storage supplies that will be available from the 1953 late crop to compete with the early commercial crop marketings in the winter and spring months of 1954.

THE END

You can MEASURE
the difference
in yields
and quality!



VIGORO*

COMMERCIAL GROWER

... a special formula
geographically adjusted
for the soils in your area

Vigoro for Commercial Growers is made to supply the maximum nutrient requirements of high value crops. All needed nutrient elements are skillfully balanced in maximum ratio to each other. Predominating soil types in your area have also been considered in its formulation.

With Vigoro CG you get maximum yields that command top of the market prices. For full information, just drop us a card, mentioning your special crops. Address:

Swift & Company
Plant Food Division
U. S. Yards, Chicago 9, Illinois



*Vigoro is the trade-mark for Swift & Company's complete, balanced plant food.

OPPORTUNITY ADS

Only 25c a word for one-time insertion; 20c a word for two-time insertion; 15c a word for four-time insertion—CASH WITH ORDER. Count each initial and whole number as one word. ADDRESS AMERICAN VEGETABLE GROWER, Willoughby, Ohio.

AGENTS WANTED

RUN A SPARE-TIME GREETING CARD AND GIFT SHOP AT HOME. Show friends samples of our new 1954 All-Occasion Greeting Cards and Gifts. Take their orders and earn up to 100% profit. No experience necessary. Costs nothing to try. Write today for samples on approval. REGAL GREETINGS, Dept. 8, Ferndale, Michigan.

AUTHORS SERVICE

BEGINNING WRITERS: GET \$1 TO \$20 CHECKS daily writing simple children's stories, articles, poetry in your spare time. Experience unnecessary. Our instructions reveal how. Details FREE. W. HERMAN, 7016 Euclid, Cleveland 3, Ohio.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

GROW MUSHROOMS. CELLAR, SHED. SPARE. FULL time, year round. We pay \$3.50 lb. We paid Babbitt \$4,165.00 in few weeks. FREE BOOK. WASHINGTON MUSHROOM IND., Dept. 127, 2954 Admiral Way, Seattle, Wash.

NEW PLASTIC MENDING TAPE. JUST PRESS ON! Repairs clothing instantly. Lightning seller. Samples sent on trial. KRISTEE 100, Akron, Ohio.

CIDER MILLS—PRESSES

CIDER AND WINE PRESSES, HAND AND HYDRAULIC, new and rebuilt. Repairs and supplies. Clarifier and Filters. Bottling equipment. Write for catalogue. W. O. RUNKLES' MACHINERY CO., 185 Oakland St., Trenton, N. J.

DUCKS AND GEES

DEPENDABLE INCUBATORS FOR HATCHING DUCK and goose eggs. All sizes. Guaranteed Hatching Eggs from Magnificent Rouen Ducks, massive in size, Four Varieties Geese, also Guinea. Illustrated Folder Free. GOSHEN POULTRY FARM, Goshen, Indiana.

FOR SALE—BUSINESS

TREE SURGERY AND LANDSCAPING BUSINESS, with or without equipment, a gold mine for right parties. TREE SERVICE, Box 705, S. Norwalk 17, Conn.

FOR SALE—EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

1953 MODEL 36-L SPEED SPRAYER, VERY LITTLE use. 1953 35-T Bean Sprayer. CORY ORCHARDS, Cory, Ind.

ANY PART OR ALL OF 15,000 WOOD FIELD BOXES 24" x 9 1/2" (wide) x 4 1/2" deep and 32" x 12" x 12" inside dimensions. In nearly new condition. Write for quotation, give quantity and size required. From one of the world's largest dealers in almost-new wood boxes. BARNES & SMITH CORPORATION, 6520 West State Street, Milwaukee 13, Wis.

RECONDITIONED HIGH PRESSURE SPRAYERS, PTO or engine, several sizes. Also used blower attachments. RILEY'S, Phone 425, Hart, Michigan.

WOODEN KEGS AND BARRELS—SAVE BY BUYING directly from largest wholesaler in U. S. Widespread plants mean lower freight charges. MASLOW COOPERAGE CORP., 16 Court St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

LATE MODEL SPEED SPRAYER FOR SALE. ANY reasonable offer. BOX 54, Fairhope, Ala.

CONCENTRATE SPRAY RIG. ENGINE DRIVEN Hardie 35, 400-Gal. Tank. 35 HP Aqua-Jet Blower used one season at 3X and 4X. Good condition guaranteed. Want to buy used Hale Sprayer. JAMES DEAN, Rt. 2, Geneva, Ohio.

50 GAL. TRAILER TYPE, HARDIE SPRAYER, 500 gal. tank. Fully equipped. In perfect condition. A bargain. WELDAY'S ORCHARD, Smithfield, Ohio.

VEGETABLE SEEDS

CAN SUPPLY PREMIER GREAT LAKES, 425, AND regular Great Lakes Lettuce Seed at attractive prices. Also Long Type Imperator and Regular Imperator Carrot Seed. GEORGE LOOMIS AND SONS, P. O. Box 387, Hemet, Calif.

MEDICAL

FREE BOOK—PILES, FISTULA, COLON-STOMACH, associated conditions. Newest scientific procedures. THORNTON & MINOR HOSPITAL, Suite C-112, Kansas City 9, Mo.



Karl C. King, owner, King Farms in Pennsylvania, was a featured speaker at VGAA convention.

VGAA LOOKS TO 1954

(Continued from page 12)

secretary of the National Potato Council, which is establishing new offices in Washington, D. C., told about plans for potato promotion.

Films of last season's National Vegetable Week were also shown. Publicity chairman Max Chambers announced that plans for National Vegetable Week for 1954 are underway.

Selected National Vegetable Queen from six state queens, all of whom were at the convention, was Elaine Kernan of Bridgeton, N. J.

Man of the Year!

"Vegetable Man of the Year" award was made to Dr. John C. Walker, University of Wisconsin, for his contributions to plant disease control. Certificates of Merit were awarded to Dr. Jack Hester, Campbell Soup Company; Dr. Roger B. Corbett, National Association of Food Chains; and Dr. Albert F. Yeager, University of New Hampshire.

Recalling 30 years of experience in battling vegetable diseases, Dr. Walker told about the development of disease resistant varieties and new organic fungicides. Diversity in choice of materials to meet various crops and vari-



Paul Dickman, VGAA board of directors member, spoke on equality for vegetable producers.

Books for Your Home Library

DISEASES OF VEGETABLE CROPS by John C. Walker. The book thoroughly covers the diseases of such vegetables as asparagus, beans, celery, onions, etc. Each disease is discussed in regard to symptoms, cycle of development, and methods of control. It contains 629 pages and is well illustrated....\$7.50

VEGETABLE CROPS by Homer C. Thompson. An up-to-date book which covers such subjects as plant nutrition, weed control, nutritional value of vegetables, recent advances in handling and marketing vegetables, cultivation, irrigation and storage. The book contains 611 pages and many illustrations.\$6.75

THE TOMATO by Paul Work. Here is a practical treatise on the tomato which is for the amateur as well as the large commercial grower. It includes discussions on characteristics; methods of planting; fertilization; cultivation, points about harvesting, packing, storing and marketing; as well as insects and diseases which attack the tomato. This illustrated book contains 136 pages.\$2.50

USING COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER by McVickar. Here is a book which gives information on what fertilizers should be used and how they should be used for most efficient production.\$3.00

GARDEN SOILS by Arthur B. Beaumont. This book is written especially for the home gardener. The author has presented soil and plant science in simple language. A glossary of scientific terms can be found at the end of the book for the benefit of those unfamiliar with them. Illustrated, the book contains 280 pages.\$4.00

AMERICAN TOMATO YEAR-BOOK edited by John W. Carncross. The new 1953 edition contains much information which is of interest to the tomato grower, dealer, and shipper—all those who are vitally interested in the tomato industry. It contains an up-to-date list of recent references to tomato culture and diseases and pests and their control plus helpful information on prepackaging, use of hormones, and grade requirements for canning and processing. Profusely illustrated, the book contains 40 pages.\$2.00

Books sent postpaid on receipt of check or money order.

AMERICAN VEGETABLE GROWER

Reader Service Department

Willoughby, Ohio

AMERICAN VEGETABLE GROWER

ous growing conditions is the trend, he said.

On factors influencing the yield of canning crops, Dr. Hester pointed out the importance of maintaining vigilance throughout the growing season to assure properly adjusted soil conditions regardless of weather conditions.

Plant More Midgets!

Dr. Yeager told about his work of breeding new varieties. He described the New Hampshire Midget watermelon which will fit between the shelves of the refrigerator and called on more northern growers to produce the new melon. It is popular in the South.

A. W. Chambers, secretary of the Utah State Canning Crops Association, an organization of 5,000 members who have joined together to deal with canners, called for the formation of a processing vegetable association to work on a national basis with canners.

THE END

TREATING POX INFECTED FIELDS

FIELDS that produced sweetpotatoes infected with Pox should be marked off by the growers now so that they can be treated or avoided the next planting season. In the last few years I have found that Pox, which is a common disease in some sweetpotato growing sections, damages the appearance of the potatoes and reduces their salability.

The only known control for the disease at present is sulfur. Dr. R. H. Daines, sweetpotato disease specialist at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is carrying on numerous tests in the hope of developing a better method of treatment. I have found it best to avoid planting sweetpotatoes in fields that are subject to Pox.

Sometimes only small areas in a field are infected with the disease. The grower then is able to treat those small areas with sulfur and to plant the entire field without running into Pox difficulties.

Before applying the sulfur it is advisable to have a test made to determine the pH of the soil. The amount of sulfur to apply may vary from 100 to 300 pounds per acre. I have never made an application of more than 250 pounds per acre. The easiest way I have found to apply the sulfur uniformly is to spray it on the soil with a power sprayer. This has worked well with me for the last two years. I saw no Pox in 1953 at digging time. Now I am going to plant lima beans in my fields for at least two years and will broadcast lime and sulfur in the early spring before planting.

THE END



up to 66 feet WIDE with one compact assembly

Easily mounted on tractor rear. Low cost unit for use where spray boom accuracy is not needed. Sprays to both sides or one side only. Designed by Spraying Systems Co. . . . producers of TeeJet Spray Nozzles. Made in all brass for general spraying and all aluminum for spraying liquid fertilizers. Write for Bulletin 66.

for better spraying
at lower cost
also ask your dealer for



Famous for proved performance. Gives you the most from equipment and chemicals. Choice of over 400 interchangeable orifice tips for every spraying need.



Heavy duty spray guns, precision built. For pressures from 50 to 800 pounds. Adjustable spray.

HOW SOLD . . . Spraying Systems Co. products are supplied by leading original equipment manufacturers and their dealers everywhere.

SPRAYING SYSTEMS CO. 3232 Randolph Street • Bellwood, Illinois

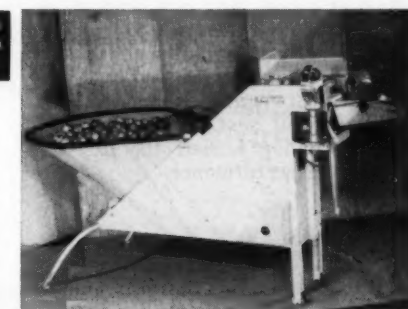
TRESCOTT

Single Head Hopper Model
AUTOBAGGER

This complete electric unit automatically fills and weighs any type bags from one to fifteen pounds. Will pack 14 bags per minute of 3 lb. onions. Hopper holds 150 lbs. Fills paper, Polyethylene, cellophane or mesh bags. Requires little floor space, one person can move it. Price complete, \$806.00.

Write today for complete information

The TRESCOTT Co., INC.



Dept. K

Fairport, New York

BOOKS FOR YOUR HOME LIBRARY

VEGETABLE GROWING by James S. Shoemaker. Discusses individual vegetables, time and depth of planting, harvesting, and marketing. Every vegetable grower should have this 515-page, well-illustrated book in his library. . . . \$6.00

FARM MECHANICS TEXT AND HANDBOOK. An encyclopedia of shop and mechanical jobs for the farm. Information on tools, machinery, motors, wiring, and painting are contained in its 774 pages. . . . \$4.50

Books sent postpaid on receipt of check or money order.

AMERICAN VEGETABLE GROWER

Reader Service Department

Willoughby, Ohio



"I Love to Garden
with my
ROTO-HOE"

Yes, ROTO-HOE is so easy to operate that women enjoy using it too. And it's easy to buy—still selling at the low, low, 1947 price, due to the tremendous customer acceptance it has earned—ROTO-HOE complete costs only \$134.

EXTRA DIVIDENDS.

Not only is ROTO-HOE first cost most modest, but there is a complete line of attachments all using the same basic power unit, all easily and quickly interchangeable in minutes. All are thoroughly engineered and "field-proven" and the cost is amazingly low. You can pump, spray, saw wood, throw snow, mow, trim and edge lawns as well as cultivate and till gardens.

GET THE FACTS

ROTO-HOE's nation wide distribution means there's a dealer near you. Write today for free color catalog and nearest dealer's name.

ROTO-HOE & SPRAYER COMPANY
Box 53V
Newbury, Ohio

Why Do It Wrong?

MOST of us who make our living from growing vegetables must perform many jobs for the first time. We have had no previous experience when we lay out a packing shed, install sprinklers, build a storage, plan a roadside market, or handle numerous other things which are strange because we have not done them before. So we make mistakes and we would do the jobs differently if we could do them over again.

In nearly every case some other grower has had the experience which we need. Someone has done what we are trying to do and could give us a lot of good advice. Most likely that vegetable grower is a reader of *AMERICAN VEGETABLE GROWER* and his experience would be invaluable to other growers.

If there are certain jobs you have attempted which you wish you could do over again, why not send an account of your experience to us? Who knows, perhaps we will publish ideas from another grower that will save you a great many unnecessary headaches in your next project. After all, good planning is half the battle of successful performance.

Tried and True

AT the end of the old year and the beginning of the new we like to pause and view in retrospect the good and the bad that has transpired during the past year, to measure the work that was done or left undone, to think of friends, old and new. And it is in this mood that we think of our good friends the county agents or farm advisors.

Surely the vegetable grower has no greater friend than the county agent of his state extension service. Here is a steadfast individual who knows the benefits and the problems of vegetable farming. The county agent is looked to as a source of unbiased and nonpartisan information whenever the need for advice and assistance arises.

The knowledge that, outside of his own intimate circle, there is a friend to whom he may turn, is a pleasant thought for the vegetable grower to carry into the New Year.

Not only does he serve as a bank of practical knowledge but he is active in promoting better production and marketing practices. He takes the lead and the burden of keeping local grower associations going strong and puts in plenty of work after regular hours on these jobs.

Our county agent friends are human and sometimes make mistakes. But it is pretty difficult to diagnose and correct all the troubles plants possess in this day and age when so much new knowledge has become available so quickly.

Many county agents have shown themselves able to adapt quickly and take advantage of modern devices. We admire the county agent in Massachusetts who has his car equipped with a radio phone to better keep in contact with growers and to be more quickly responsive to their calls. We admire also those county agents that arise before milking time even to make their way to radio stations to broadcast latest weather and pest information. All in all, the county agent is a pretty versatile fellow and worth many times more than his salary would indicate.

Turtalized Tomatoes

EDITOR Andrew A. Duncan of the Maryland Vegetable Growers *Newsletter* has coined a new word in reference to tomatoes. He says that a vegetable grower and a poultryman got mixed up in a legal dispute. The accusation was that chickens were eating tomatoes. The defense claimed that turtles were causing the damage. Inspection by college scientists showed the chickens were at fault, and the ter-rapins went scot-free. So don't be misled if you ever hear again of turtalized tomatoes—it's all the chickens' fault!

Looking to 1954

FROM all indications the 1954 market season for the vegetable growers of the nation is going to be a little tougher than was 1953. A closer watch on expenses and a closer study of markets and marketing conditions will pay many growers well.

Now is the time to begin planning for the later marketing season for the various vegetable crops you are producing. You can check to see if you are

getting all the service entitled to you from your local Market News Service as well as periodical reports on production and market conditions of those crops in other areas of the country. Just keep up-to-date on marketing. This kind of study can also help you determine how many acres of a given vegetable you can grow and market profitably this year.

Where and how to begin to cut expenses is a question with no easy answer. Vegetable growers utilize more labor per acre than any other type of farmer, and this could be a place to begin. Mechanization of certain jobs is one way to reduce labor expense. Using herbicides to control weeds in place of hand hoeing is another. Using the newer and more effective insecticides and fungicides may reduce the number of applications. Some jobs that formerly required two or three men can now be done with one man through improved machines. There are cases where improved machines have reduced the field harvest labor from 50 to six, a comparatively big saving.

Now is the time for us to have our mechanics working on overhauling, perfecting, and improving various pieces of equipment. Work done now may mean a saving in both labor and time next growing season. Put your ingenuity to work now, as well as later.

From the Sublime to the Ridiculous

THE other day we picked up this little analysis of census figures.

Population of the U. S.	153,000,000
Those over 65	41,000,000
Left to do the work	112,000,000
Those under 21	54,000,000
Left to do the work	58,000,000
Government employed	25,000,000
Left to do the work	33,000,000
In the armed services	10,000,000
Left to do the work	23,000,000
In state or city work	19,000,000
Left to do the work	4,000,000
In hospitals or asylums	3,800,000
Left to do the work	200,000
Bums who won't work	175,000
Left to do the work	25,000
In pens and jails	24,998
Left to do the work	2

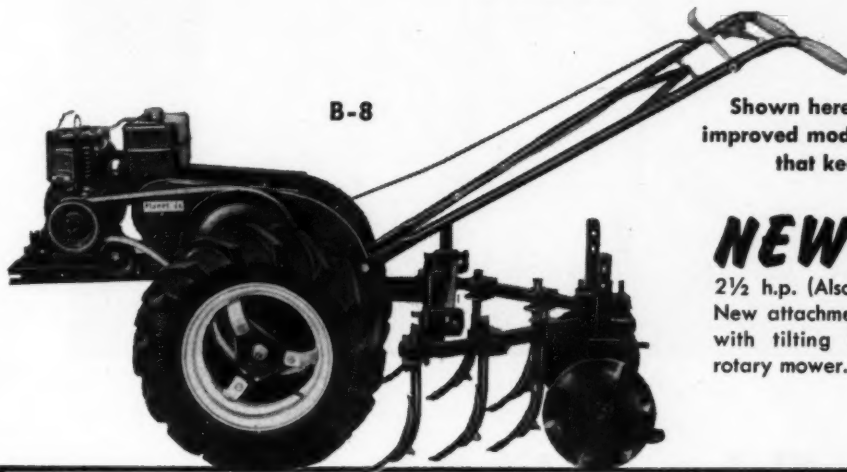
You and I, and I'm getting tired!

Perhaps this is the final explanation for our difficulties in securing the necessary labor on our farms. But don't take it too seriously.

Planet Jr.®

The FIRST Name in Garden Tractors

The Planet Jr. name on agricultural and gardening implements has been a familiar symbol of dependability for over 80 years. It is not surprising, therefore, that the most efficient garden tractors of today bear it as a guarantee of outstanding workmanship and performance. On your own farm, you can be sure of greater results at lower cost when your equipment bears the name, "Planet Jr." . . . the first name in tractors.



B-8

Shown here are a few of the new and improved models that typify the progress that keep the Planet Jr. name first.

NEW! Reverse power for the popular model B-8, 2½ h.p. (Also available without reverse.) New attachments include 20" power saw with tilting arbor, rotary tiller, and rotary mower.



BP-1

TUFFY

Super
TUFFY

NEW! BP-1, 2 h.p. with many engineering improvements for greater efficiency. New power saw, rotary tiller and rotary mower attachments.

NEW! Tuffy—just over a year old and still causing excitement among dealers and customers everywhere. 1 h.p. with cultivator, trailer cart, snow plow and grader, lawn seeder, vegetable seeder, rotary mower, rotary tiller, lawn mower hitch.

NEW! Super Tuffy, with new design, new power, new attachments. 1½ h.p., tubular steel handles, all steel frame, ground-gripper tires, fingertip controls—all Tuffy attachments.

**FINEST
IN THE FIELD**

Planet Jr.®



Send for details today

S. L. ALLEN & CO., Inc.
3419 N. 5th St., Phila. 40, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Please send me complete details on the new Planet Jr. tractors and attachments. Also ☐ agricultural implements ☐ garden tools ☐ tillage steels.

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Service
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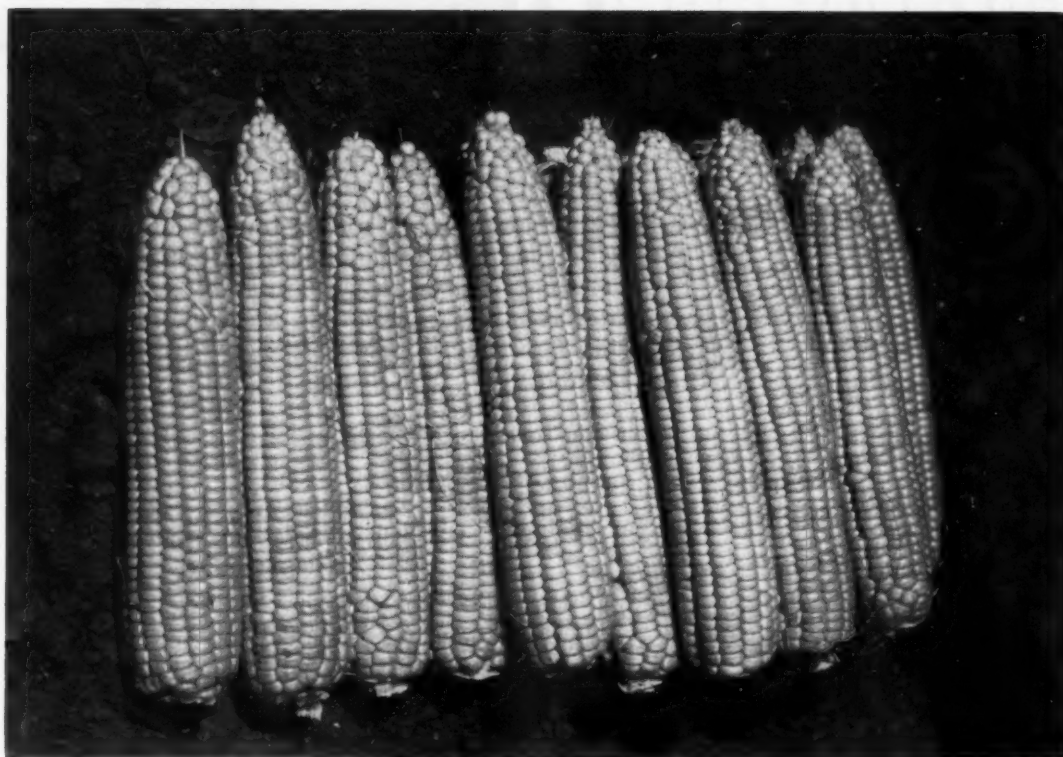
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GROWER



CALUMET

For the market grower, Calumet is one of the best and most widely adapted hybrid sweet corns ever introduced. The ears are very attractive: long and medium slender, with medium small kernels of pleasing light yellow color and have considerable resistance to ear worms. Plants are strong and vigorous, highly resistant to bacterial wilt and standing up well to conditions of heat and drought.

From New England to Texas, Calumet has proven its worth. Tell your dealer you will try it this year, or ask us for further information.

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Milford, Conn. • Oakland 4 • Oxnard • Salinas • San Antonio 11

Asgrow Export Corp.: Milford, Conn.